Commodore Parker's Command Battling with Imaginary Foes.

SMOKE AND WATER.

Hard Times for Gunners and Signal Officers.

A Puffy Prize Captured Off

Florida Reefs.

GULF OF FLORIDA, UN BOARD UNITED STATES FLAGSHIP WABASH, Feb. 13, 1874. The regular report of the cruise is here taken up again. It is hoped to present this in such a shape as to be intelligible to every naval officer and to serve as matter for preservation and inture refernce. This morning (Friday) opened clear and pleasant, with a light southeasterly breeze. The wind died out toward midday, and we suffered afternoon in New York. The fleet weighed anchor ogether at nine o'clock, and the signal (240) was at once made, under the distinguishing pennant of the shenandoah:—"From the vessel whose tinguishing pennant is shown over this aignal, fleet form double schelon." This was sup-plemented by the signal directing the fleet to steam west. All the vessels had anchored in double scholon, with the wings in advance, and, as they were heading east at the moment on which the signal was given, all the helms were put hard a'port. Each vessel had reached her position when bow was brought around to west.

A signal from the flagship at ten sent the officers and crews of every vessel to general quarters. The guns were manned and each ship fired one broadside of blank cartridge. Even from this amount of firing the fleet in the rear of the flagamount of firing the fleet in the rear of the flag-ship was for a short time enveloped in smoke. I then saw the pointedness of Commodore Parker's remark in reserence to the use of torpedo vessels under cover of the smoke of battle. I could very readily realize by the simplest system of arithmetic that, if a single broadside produced so much smoke, two hours of battle would abso-lutely obscure foes and friends alike. An last River fog would be sunshine in comparison. As viewed from the poop deck of the flagship, this "make believe" battle was quite an interesting sight.

"BOARDERS AWAY."

The signal to exercise at fire quarters came soon after. The pumps were manned and the men rushed to their various stations. Hither and thither among the throng men could be seen hurrying with fire extinguishers strapped on their backs. Men were sent alout to make preparations for getting out the launches, while marines were stationed at the falls of the other boats. "Thus reminds me of \_\_\_\_\_" was all I heard an old tar whisper to a comrade, as he hurried down the ladder to the spar deck. I was very sure the comparison would eventually fall in the end, however, for in those old days after action the "grog" was served out plentifully; and it there is anything for which a salior has a weak-mess it is "grog."

action the "grog" was served out pientifully; and it there is snything for which a salior has a weakmess it is "grog."

A NOTICEABLE IMPROVEMENT.

The fleet was then ordered from double chelon 
"forward into line," and this movement was executed as I have described in a previous letter. 
The fleet was now beading west, all abreast. At 
half-past eleven the signal was made to the First 
division, "From the right of division form 
chelon of vessels," and to the Third division, 
"From the left of division form echelon of 
vessels." The three extreme ships on each wing 
came to the front in echelon, while the six in the 
centre advanced in line. The result of the evolution was to place the fleet in positions which, indicated in a diagram, would have the form of a section of a truncated cone. A very marked improvement in the execution of evolutions is noticeable 
throughout the fleet. The signal, "Fleet by the 
right flank," twice repeated, headed the fleet toward the east, and in that order and formation 
they returned to their anchorage at twenty minuces past three. This was the end of the second 
week's evolutions. Saturday and Sunday are days 
of rest.

St. Valentine's Day-A Fishing Party on the Florida Reets-An Incident of the Naval Function.

GULP OF FLORIDA, ON BOARD UNITED STATES FLAGSHIP WABASH, Feb. 14—Evening. I have just returned from a day's fishing on the famous Florida reefs, I shall endeavor to give you some account of the delightful sport. I awoke on this eventful morning, as I have awaked many another day, on board a man-of-war. A wrangle etween two of the wardroom boys, as to whose turn it was to go forward after the next cup of coffee, disturbed the tranquility of my siumbers. A ing about on these hard mattresses always bringssun was streaming in through the open fort, were my first impressions. This was St. Valentine's day; yet I had slept till after eight o'clock, and remembered; all at once, that the bonnie days depicted in the familiar page of "The Fair Maid Perth" were "lang sine gang." Key West is not remarkable, moreover, for the appreciation in which its citizens hold these good old ceremonies

COFFER INSTEAD OF A VALENTINE. The realities of this world, in the shape of coffee and toast and an appreciative appetite, got the better of my imagination before long, and I put in an appearance at the wardroom table. The query as to how the day should be passed seemed to have taken root in each one's mind, so that it was with feetings of sincere and keen pleasure on the part of some that it became known that a grand fishing excursion was to be d to go in to the coral reef. Our pllot, who apparently knew exactly where every fish in the Gulf of Florida was located, was kind enough to volunteer in this "foriorn hope" in quest of relief from a monotonous Saturday's rest. Not a man in who went along to take care of the fish, who did not see himself returning with all his PRIDE AS A PISHERMAN

gratified. "Fish enough for the ship's company at st" I saw written in several eyes. Not seeing any opportunity for a "beat" if I accepted the in vitation kindly tendered me, I laid aside my note-

any opportunity for a "beat" If I accepted the invitation kindly tendered me, I laid aside my notebook for a lew nours and stepped into the boat. There were several very distinguished persons among the number; still I have no authority to connect their names with this famous excursion on St. Valentine's day, 1874.

"OH, A SALLOR'S LIFE FOR ME."

After a sail of ten miles to the southward, with considerable "easting" for all I know to the contrary, we reached the fishing grounds. "liave you lunch aboard?" asked the officer of the deck privately, and in the kindest manner possible, as we left the Wabbab. Never was more just indignation aroused. The person interrogated evidently did not say what he thought. "I believes," had been the reply, but his face said unmistakably, "We can go ashore on one of the keys and cook our fish if we get hungry." Of course, if we got hungry; but the sport was to be so grand that it was a profanation to insinuate that any one in that party would get hungry. Well, here we were. Out lines, down anchor, fish shoy! "Surely this is not the place?" says one. "I guess not," replies the pilot, and the boat is run nearer to the bar. Soveral hours are passed in prospecting, with only six or eight small "ropoherm" to satisfy the desires of the fishermen. A gallant young midshipman produces a bottle oi Bass, and we lunch off this and some sandwiches. Then to the sport (?) again. The pale face of our signal officer, filled as is his mind with the past ten days' deet evolutions, intimates that the fish have doubtless formed in echelon for the common defence. At any rate, they defy all our efforts at capture.

HOW OUR VALENTINE CAME.

All at once one of the most popular officers in the wardroom gets a bite. We are all glad of it. Not only because it signalizes the usual good luck which attends the joily fellow, who is known familiarly as "Western Ocean Johnnie," but oecause his good fortune shows that there are fish yet in the sea-which, in fact, it may be seriously remarked, we were actually begin

NAVAL TACTICS. | passed a few days in London. As he said this the fish closed its mouth on a large knife, which had been inserted to incilitate the extraction of the hook, and the poor animal had to be slammed several times on the deck before it would relinquish

"Lord, see how he swells!" excising the happy owner of the monstrosity, whose expression of countenance is very hard to quess, so equally is it divided between disappointment, curiosity and disgust. Still there was the starting fact—the fish was blowing itself up. The beauty of the dark purple spots on the gray skin could not be denied;

purple spots on the gray skin could not be denied; but—

"There, he swells again!" interrupted the same voice. Taking a respectable distance we gave our curiosity full play. There was nothing for us to say or do but to stare at the growing proportions of the strange fish. Was it because it was the catch of the day that it looked so large in our eyes? No; there were five of us watcaing the animal at the same time and—

"Here he goes again!" reiterated the Western member. This time "he?" did go, sure enough, lor, apparently having "waited for a good ready," the fish inflated itself to five times its usual size and burst down the middle of its stomach.

WE LOSE NEFTUNE'S VALENTINE.

We sat contemplating the wreck until the pilot remarked that he had been about these waters for thirty years and never had known a toad fish to act "so out of the usual" before.

With the pilot's words as well as the explosion came the wreck of all our hopes of seeing the captor's name in a prominent place in the museum of a Western college. The few pieces of fins, and tail remaining were ruefully consigned to the deep, and we were reminded that sunset was near at hand and that before we could return dinner would be on the table. Alas! the old story of fisherman's luck!

This is the way your correspondent enjoyed St. Valentine's Day. I could write more of the day's

Inck!

This is the way your correspondent enjoyed St. Valentine's Day. I could write more of the day's sport; but, believing that one good service deserves another, I forbear. I shall try to emulate the noole spirit of kindness and generosity which is shown me on every hand throughout the entire fleet; and, as these gentlemen were good enough to ask me to join interests with them when the prospects were so iascinating that the invitation seemed to me like an offer of a gold mine, I believe it to be the proper thing to say that I enjoyed myself immensely. This was the funniest valentine I ever saw.

The "Ins" and "Outs" of the Ninth Evolutions-Suggestions for Naval Commanders.

ON BOARD U. S. FLAGSHIP WABASH, CULF OF FLORIDA, Feb. 16, 1874. The evolutions for the day are ended. We have sailed about twenty miles to the westward and thence back to the place of starting. It is probable that there is nowhere else in the world just such another piece of water so well suited for a great naval function as this. A gale from any direction but the northwest is powerless to render the water too rough for fleet exercise. Good anchorage everywhere, neither too deep nor too shallow, this arm of the great Gulf of Mexico seems to have been created for just such reviews.

AN INCIDENT.

This cruise occasionally develops a rich incident. The surgeon of one of the largest vessels in the fleet visited the "sick bay" as usual yesterday morning, and found a new patient. The usua

"What is your name?"
"Robert McLuskey, sir." "What is your age?" "Twenty-nine, sir." 'What do you rate?"

"First class boy, sir."

"First class boy!"
"Yes, sir; I used to be captain of the maintop; but I jumped the boat' the last time I was ashore at Key West, and my rate was taken away from

devoted to fleet exercises, and the fourteenth of the cruise (Monday, February 16), found the vessels anchored in the form of the last manœuvre on Friday atternoon, Saturday and Sunday being holidays. The fleet got under way at nine, and formed into columns of vessels by divisions. The majestic Colorado, the trim Lancaster and the The day was beautiful in the extreme, and the waters of the Gulf were not ruffled by a single breath of air. The sun was very warm, but the breath of air. The sun was very warm, but the signal officers, under awnings, stood manfully at their posts. After salling for three or four miles in divisions to accustom the officers of vessels in keeping distances accurately, the signal was made, "Columns of vessels by twos." This manœuvre was executed by the first and third vessels in each division slowing down and the second and fourth vessels steaming to starboard and up into line with the ship next in front. This brought the first and second and the third and fourth respectively abreast of each other. They then had this position:—

. . I Wabash.

"VESSELS INTO LINE."

The vessels were then formed in line, or, in language intelligible to all, brought up abreast. I have described this evolution once before. This gave them this form, heading west:—

1 Wabash. Then by the left flank, which converted the fleet . . . . . . . . . . . .

This signal was repeated, and resulted in a "right about" for fleet, for they were now headed in line toward their anchorage, to the eastward:—

11111111111 † Wabash.

The fleet, on signal, next formed in double eche on by division, still steaming eastward:—

1 1 1 1 t Wabash. This result was obtained, as is readily seen, by the second division increasing its speed from four to six knots until the desired position was ob-tained, when these four vessels slowed down to

tained, when these four vessels slowed down to the usual rate of speed.

EIGHLON FOREVER!

The first and third divisions were then ordered to form échelon of vessels—the first division from the right, the third from the left. The Wabash slowed down at this point and dropped to the rear between the two middle vessels of the second division. This evolution was badly executed by the Canandaigua and Ticonderoga. The sprightly little Fortune likewise seemed about to start on an independent course of her own. Finally, after a good deal of signalling, the vessels took position as follows:—

1 1 1 1

PUTURE NAVAL WARFARE.

Commodore Parker, in an interview which I had with him some days since, advocates this formation as the very best for a fleet to take in opening an engagement. The advance line should be composed of monitors or rams, with the heavy armament vessels on the flanks and the torpedo crafts in the rear. I believe, however, that I explained this quits inlly in the account of the interview.

The next evolution was from the signal, "Columns of vessels by divisions, from the left," This brought the feet again into three columns, on the line of bearing taken by the left vessel in each division. This formation was the same as that resulting from the second manœuvre of the day, and is represented thus:—

The fleet anchored in this position at twenty minutes to five, sending down topgaliant masts and yards as anchor was let go. This ended the exercises of the day.

Interesting Movements of the Fleet-The Tenth Day's Programme.

ON BOARD UNITED STATES FLAGSHIP WABASH, 1 GULP OP FLORIDA, Feb. 17, 1874. This large fleet has just dropped anchor after nother long day's exercise. The pale and haggard countenances of the signal officers on each of he ships indicate that the day's work has not passed without much care and anxiety. The weather has been excessively warm for the past

the heat has been rather annoying. THE TENTH DAY OF EXERCISE

and the fifteenth of the "function," Tuesday, February 17, opened clear and pleasant. The topgallant masts and yards were sent up early. The Wachusett, which nad been detached from the fleet on Monday in order to receive her coal, was ordered to resume her place in the feet. The Wyoming was placed in the position of the For-tune, in the first division, and the latter ordered to Key West for coal. The fleet weighed by signal at nine A. M., having been signalled to stand west "In columns of vessels abreast by divisions, natural order." the fleet took the following positions:—

→Wabash.

The fleet was then manœuvred "by the left flank," which brought the vessels into the same the signal:-"Divisions form columns of vessels from the left of division flagship; fleet left oblique; left vessels forward." JUST HOW IT WAS DONE.

The signal "On the centre division form column of vessels. Right in front," then followed. It would be very difficult to illustrate this by a diagram, and as it cannot be described only in the most technical manner, landsmen are warned to avoid the remainder of this paragraph. The fleet was heading west in columns of divisions. When the signal was made the leading ship of the right division brought her head west southwest, and was followed on the same bearing by the other vessels of the division, as they got in her wake, all moving at full speed. The centre division kept onward at such speed (coming up to close order) as enabled it to come into column at a distance of 120 lathoms from the rear vessel of the right division. The leading vessel of the left (in this instance the rear) division kept north, and was followed by the other all moving at the same rate of speed as that maintained by the centre division. When the leading vessel in the third division reached the wake of the centre division (which was steering the came up in line with the rest of the column in advance. The result was to bring the vessels into column heading westward:—

---------At ten minutes to tweive the fleet was signalled "By the right flank," which, of course, brought the vessels into line, heading North, as under:—

. . . . . . . . . . . . The general signal at a quarter-past twelve was, "Fleet form double column from the centre of fleet. Right wing left; left wing right; oblique centre vessel forward." The solution of this problem was easy enough. The two centre vessels kept their course. The vessels of the right wing steered northwest, those of the left wing northeast, the former coming into column in the wake of the right centre, the latter in the wake of the left centre vessel. The result was double column:

> 7 4 + 5 8 1 10 4 4 3 11 4 1 2 12 1

At one o'clock the fleet was ordered "forward into line, right and left oblique." This signal was obeyed by the two centre vessels (Nos. 6 and 7) slowing to steerage way and the rest of the fleet obliquing two points to starboard and port, respectively, until they all came into line abreast of the two centre vessels. The result was the same as the signal at ten minutes to twelve o'clock.

The fleet was next manœuvred by the right flank, which brought the vessels into column, "reversed order," heading east. The next signal, "Right, by heads of divisions," brought the fleet again into columns of divisions, The heads of divisions put their helms hard a port, and the three rear vessels in each division gradually came into column with their leader. The result was this position, with vessels heading south:—

The signal. "By the right flank," again brought their heads to the eastward, with the following formation:--

The fleet steered in this form to the rendezvous, and anchored at five P. M.

Anxiety Concerning the Monitors Ajax and Dictator-Precautions of the Navy Department-The Evolutions of the

Eleventh Day.
On BOARD UNITED STATES FLAGSHIP WABASH, FLORIDA BAY, Feb. 18, 1874.
The mail from Cedar Keys brought word from the monitor Ajax, regarding whose non-arriva some serious apprehensions were beginning to be entertained. The welcome news that she was riding safe in Tybee roadstead, and was taking on coal to complete her voyage, spread rapidly over the fleet. Such news almost seems to spread with the wind. The startling information from the Navy Department which the Fortune, Lieuten-Commander Green, brought from Key West, directing that two vessels be sent in search of the Dictator, rather dampened the feeling of joy. Among all the grades of naval officers the suspense was felt deeply, for there was none who did not have at least one friend on board the craft. I feel at liberty to write the true state of ieeling, for by the time this appears in print the question of the Dictator's safet will have been definitely settled. In my despatch to-night I shall go no further than to give the ab solute news, for I know how many sad nearts one little word could make if sent by me over the wires to the HEBALD, and as far as I am personally concerned I should rather get "beaten" on the news of her loss (if such a dire calamity should befall) than to cause even one pang of anguish to a mother, wife or lover, by giving currency of the dreadful rumors that are liable to get affoat. The missing vessel has been picked to pieces at the dinner table of every ward room mess in the fleet. Her "overhang" has been declared dangerous, her deck beams weak, knowledge of the craft but can now find weak points in her construction. There is one very worthy and notable exception, however, and that is Fleet Engineer Robie, who asserts, in spite of every way able to take care of herself. One voice like this will stop a world of ill-timed rumors. in sending the Brooklyn and Wachusett off because of the importance of settling all anxieties of mind regarding the Dictator at the very earliest moment. Both vessels were under way in less than

THE ELEVENTH DAY'S EVOLUTIONS, on the sixteenth day of the cruise, Wednesday February 18, passed off smoothly. The dawn came February 18, passed off smoothly. The dawn came clear and beautiful—I am told by an officer of the morning watch. I contess to a strong disinclination to "curn out" before eight o'clock, at which time the coffee is served. Every prospect of as warm a day as yesterday was my mental weather prophecy as I ascended to the spar deck, just as the fleet got under way. The anchors were weighed at nine, and the fleet stood out on the usual westward course in "columns of divisions," the same formation in which they anchored on Tuesday evening. The next signal, at a quarter to ten, was "divisions form columns, from the right of division vessel; fleet right oblique; right vessel forward." Although the soveral divisions are formed in columns the effect of the signal is to form the fleet into column. The line of bearing for all the divisions being the right vessel in each, it is readily seen (by consulting the last diagram in resterdar's letter) that the

breeze blowing from the northeast since morning, result of the manœuvre "right oblique, right vessel forward," is as under:

- Wabash. This was followed at a quarter-past one by the signal, "On the rear division form columns of vessels abreast by divisions in natural order." The evolution was thus executed. Being virtually in column, heading west, when the signal was given, the vessels of the right and centre divisions altered their course to the north, while the rear or left division kept its course. As soon as the centre division had gained its proper distance to the northward of the rear one it came west and hoisted its position pennant for the guidance of the right division, which then manucured with respect to the centre division as the centre did with respect to the rear. The result was columns by divisions. This was the formation, vessels still heading west:—

At eleven the general signal was given, "On the centre division form column of vessels, right in front," The solution to this problem is found by the right division steering two points to port, the centre division keeping its course and the left division steering eight points to starboard. This manurative was described at length in yesterday's letter. The result was that the fleet came into column, beading wast.

→Wabash.

The signal, "Meet by the right flank," at half-The signal, "Neet by the right fank," at hair-past eleven, brought the feet into line "reverse or ler," heading north. This signal was given twice more, at twelve and five minutes post twelve, which brought the vessels in line, natural order, i. e., No. 1 on the right, heading south. The next manacuvre was in response to the sig-nal, "Fleet by fours, left wheel," which resulted in the following order:—

It is a very simple matter, and is effected by simply putting the helm hard a' starboard, so as to execute an angle of ninety degrees, or eight points.

At fifty minutes past one the fleet was signalled to move by the left flank, which brought the vessels into columns by divisions, as under:—

The fleet anchored at two o'clock

The Shot and Shell Practice on Friday

Via KEY WEST, Fig., Feb. 24, 1874.

The order in which the ships sailed while firing at the target on Friday, and the number of shells fired by each ship was as follows:-FIRST DIVISION.

Fessels. Shells Shells Fessels. Fired. Vessels. Fired. Vessels. Fired. Congress. 6 Wyoming. 4 THIRD DIVISION. The firing after all was nothing to brag of, the Franklin being the only ship that hit the target, putting a couple of shells through its centre. The fleet got under way at about eleven o'clock in the

in a circle, and came to anchor at seven o'clock in the evening. The firing as regards line shots was very good. the distance being 800 yards, and the firing was by division.

morning and passed the target three times, sailing

ST. CATHERINE'S CONVENT OF MERCY.

Ceremony of Solemn Profession at St. Catherine's Convent of Mercy, East

Although the penitential season of Lent began last week and all devout Christians are supposed to be spiritually clothed in sackcloth and ashes and to have bid adieu to the gay scenes of the fashionable world until the dawn of the glorious Easter, and although the Catholic Church forbids marrying and giving in marriage during this season of prescribed penitence, a devoted daughter of this Church vesterday celebrated her nuntials with sun and moon admire." At the appointed hour the convent doors were opened to admit the relatives and friends of Miss Bridget Creamer (who is known in religion as Sister Mary Evangelista). This lady, so well known as the sister of Mr. Thomas | and at the same time offered the following pre-J. Creamer in the world of society, has been for the past two years a novice in the Order of the "Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy," in their convent. No. 35 East Houston street. That those two years have been profitably and acceptably spent in doing the will of God as evinced by her superiors the ceremony of yesterreligion, and each wearing on her snoulders the spotless choir mantle, the religious entered the chapel two by two, the Lady Superioress coming last conducting by the hand the sister who was to receive the black veil, and, leaving her kneeling

alone before the altar, the other religious retired to their respective places in the chapel, while the venerable Archbishop McCloskey, vested in cope and mitre and attended by his chaplains, ap-

to their respective places in the chapel, while the venerable Archbishop McCloskey, vested in cope and mitre and attended by his chaplains, approached the foot of the altar. The hymn "Veni Creator Spiritus" being finished and the proper prayers and responses given, the Archbishop blessed the black veil and then the sliver ring, after which the Gospel according to St. Matthew, xvi., 22-28, Inclusive, was read and the Archbishop in his usual anctious manner addressed the assembly, but particularly exhorted the young lady who was about to irrevocably "take up her cross" and follow her Divine Master to imitate the example and follow closely in the loctsteps of that Lord who was and is all charity. He said that the hie of the Sister of Mercy must be a continual sacrifice of self; and greater charity than this there is mone; that one gives an entire life, with all its thoughts, hopes, feelings and aspirations, to the service of others; for the poor are always in our midst, the afficted ever need consolation, the rien require sympathy and the ignorant cry aloud for instruction. In calling the religious to this emulation of His character, the greatest Teacher, the wisest Counselior and tenderest Friend that the afflicted knew gave such abundance of grace to His followers that they should in all things seek to dispense these blessings to others, and in the vow which she would shortly pronounce the candidate would especially bind aerself to the practice of the most perfect charity—a complete subjection of her entire self to the service of God.

At the conclusion of his exhortation the Archbishop interrogated the novice as to her desire, and she replied, "My lord, I most humply beg to be received to the holy profession." The celebrant then inquired as to her knowledge of the obligations she assumed, and, the responses being satisfactory, he laid aside the cope and mitre and began the celebration of the Mass of the Holy Gost, praying especially for the novice who desired to make her profession. After the color had been sai

shalt be crowned forever." The newly professed then arose from her kneeling posture, saying, "I am espoused to Him whom the angels serve, whose beauty the sun and moon admire." The Archbishop then gave the benediction three several times in the name of the Pather, son and Holy Ghost, and in the name of the perfect Trinity, after which the newly professed retired a few steps from the altar, singing, "My heart hath untered a good word; I speak my words to the King," The choir responded, "Whom I have, whom I have loved, in whom I have believed, and towards whom my heart inclineth." She continued singing, "I have chosen to be an abject in the house of my Lord Jesus Christ," and the choir responded as before. The newly professed then prostrated herself before the altar while the choir sang the "Te Deum." At its conclusion the Archoistop recited appropriate prayers, to which the religious replied, and having offered another special prayer for the prostrate nun the Archbishop Sprinkled her with holy water, the assistant raised and conducted her to the Superioress, where she knelt for a blessing, and receiving the kiss of peace conveyed it to the other religious. The procession left the chapel in its usual order, and the friends gathered in the parlors to congratulate the happy spouse, who soon appeared among them as radiantly happy as the fondest heart could desire. Among those present were Dr. Modiyan, Rev. Fathers Farrelfy, Salter, McGean and other clergymen; the venerable father of the bride, her mother, one of her brothers and numerous relatives and friends. Owing to the Lenten season the altars were but signify decorated, and the excellent music, though somewhat more subdued than its wont, was rendered, as usual, entirely by the choir of religious.

## THE LATE POLICE COMMISSIONER SMITH.

Action of the Board of Police.

meeting of the Board of Police, held yesterday, the Superintendent was ordered to detail fifty men and two sergeants, under the command of captain Byrnes, of the Fifteenth precinct, to act as a guard during the lying in state of the remains of Mr. Smith at the City Hall, and to appoint a guard of honor to attend the obsequies on Thursday next, from the City Hall to the Methodist Episcopal church on Seventh avenue, near Pourteenth street, and from there to the Grand Central Depot. street, and from there to the Grand Central Depot. This guard of honor is to consist of the police captains under the immediate command of Superintendent Matsell. The escort to accompany the fureral will be made up of a platoon of police from each precinct, two roundsmen and a sergeant, tweive captains, twenty-lour sergeants, and as many officers as can be spared, under the command of Inspector Walling, will conduct the body to Amsterdam. The line of march of the tuneral procession will be along Broadway to Fourteenth street to the church, where the members of Benevolent Lodge of Freemasons will receive the body and attend it into the church, the Board of Police and other neads of departments acting on the occasion as pail bearers. At a second meeting of the Board the following preamble and resolutions were passed:—

Whereas Henry Smith, Commissioner of the Police De-

second meeting of the Board the following preamble and resolutions were passed:—

Whereas Henry Smith, Commissioner of the Police Department of the city of New York and President of the Board of Police, died at his rooms at the Metropolitan Horse, in this city, at half-past ten o'clock P. M. on the 23d day of February, 1874.

Resolved, That the Board of Police unite with the public in an expression of feetings of regret at the unitimely death of Mr. Smith, who has been called in the prime of life from the performance of prominent official duties and from the cherished companionship of a wide circle of devoted and earnest friends.

Resolved, That the Board of Police desire, in the most emphasic manner, to publicly express their appreciation of and sincere regard for the deceased, as a genial and competent official and associate, as a presiding officer, judicious and prompt and as a man distinguished by generous impulses and far-reaching and wide-so-read works of benevolence, humanity and charity.

Resolved, That the surviving members of the Board by official and personas essociation with the deceased, of his great experience and conceded ability as a public officer, but by his amiable and excellent qualities as a citizen, companion and friend, and improve the occasion to place on record their high appreciation of his merits and their deep regret at their own personal loss in his death.

Resolved, That the Board of Police, though conscions that words of condolence have little effect in mitigating the force of supreme affliction, nevertheless tender an earnest expression of their sympathy to the grief-stricken wife and the afflicted kindred of the deceased in their great sorrow.

Resolved, That, as a well merited tribute of respect to the memory of the deceased President of the Grief-stricken wife and the afflicted kindred of the deceased in their great sorrow.

Resolved, That, as a well merited tribute of respect to the memory of the deceased President of the Folice Department, the officers of the police force we

The Board of Aldermen. Pursuant to a call a special meeting of the Board of Aldermen was held yesterday to take ac-tion in the matter of the demise of Mr. Henry

The reading of the minutes of the previous meeting was dispensed with. His Honor Mayor Havemeyer transmitted the

following message:—

Mayor's Office, New York, Feb. 24, 1874.

To the Honorable the Cornon Council:—

Gratiere—It is with protound regret that I have to announce to your honorable body the decease last evening, at half-past ten o'clock, at the Metropolitan Hotel, of Hon. Henry Smith, Presedent of the Police Department of this city. For many years Mr. Smith has been identified with the public asiministration, both city and county. During this period our local affairs have passed through many phases, and the administrative ability and executive powers of the deceased, associated as they were with a kind heart attracted towards him a large circle of friends of all shades of polities, by whom he was held in high esteem, and who will feel their bereavement a public loss.

I make this announcement to your honorable body, leaving it for you to take such action in reference to the event as will mark your appreciation of this services and character.

On the conclusion of the reading of this docufollowing message:-

On the conclusion of the reading of this document Alderman John J. Morris moved that the message be received and printed in the minutes.

amble and resolutions, which were unanimously adopted:—

Whereas this Common Council has learned, with the most profound sorrow, of the death of the Hon. Henry Smith President of the Police Department of the city of New York. He died on Monday, the 23d inst., in this city, in the fifty-fourth year of his age. And whereas, in view of the many and important offices to which he was lected by the people of this city, it is evident that he was honored and trusted by them to an unusual degree, and that he merited this confidence is established by the fact that he retained it for a quarter of a sentury, from his entrance into public life until his death, and by the sorrow manifested for this sad event. He was for many years a member of the local levislature of this city and county as a Councilman, Alderman and Supervisor. He performed the multifarious and diverse duties incident to every such legislative oftee in such a manner as to reflect credit upon himself and honor upon his constituency, while as an executive officer, particularly as President of the Police Department, he displayed those rare qualities of head and heart that distinguished him among his fellow men and secured for him the riemdship and goodwill of all with whom he became acquainted. Emphatical will of all with whom he became acquainted. Emphatically and the same of his duties and obligations as a good chizen, from obscurity and indigence the highest place of the affections of his auties and obligations as a good chizen, from obscurity and indigence the highest place of the affections of his numerous friends and to responsible and conspicuous places in the gitt of his fellow citizens. And whereas the death of such a manner of the numbers of the city government evidence of their appreciation of his public virtues, and of making the necessary arrangements for paying a public tribute of respect to his memory; be it therefore

these, and of maxing the necessary arrangements for paying a public tribute of respect to his memory; be it therefore Resolved, That we, the members of the Common Council, do sincerely deplore the death of Hon. Benry Smith, President of the 'olice Department, and do hereby extend to his bereaved family and sorrowing triends our mearfielt sympathy and condolence; and be it further Resolved, That out of respect for the memory of our departed riend this Common Council will attend his funeral in a body, with their staves of office draped in mourning; that the Governor's Room, in the City Hail, be appropriately draped in mourning and tendered for the reception of the remains, there to be laid in State until Thursday next, the 26th inst., that being the day for solemnizing the runeral rites and ceremonies; that the flags on the City Hail and all other public buildings be displayed at half staff from sunrise until sunset each day the body shall remain in the City Hail; that the public offices be closed on Thursday next, the 26th inst., after twelve o'elock M., and that a special committee of five members of each branch of the Common Council be appointed to perfect the above and make such other arrangements as to them may appear to be better calculated to manifest sorrow for the death and respect for the memory of the deceased.

Alderman Billings, in seconding Alderman Mor-

respect for the memory of the deceased.

Alderman Billings, in seconding Alderman Morris' resolutions, paid a glowing tribute to the many good qualities of the deceased gentieman, who was ever ready to serve his irlends and made a good public officer. There have been many harsh things said of him; but if he had any fault it was that he had too much of a heart, and if he erred it was on the side of right.

Alderman Riley moved that a committee of three be appointed to take the resolutions to the Board of Assistant Aldermen.

The Board appointed Aldermen Morris, Flanagan, Monheimer, Gillen and Billings. After which the Board adjourned until March 5.

Roard of Assistant Aldermen A special meeting of this Board was held at quarter-past five yesterday afternoon, Assistant Alderman Brucks in the chair. No other business was transacted except reading the Mayor's Mesand the adoption of the resolutions offered in the Board of Aldermen by Alderman Morris, which were unanimously adopted. Assistant Alderman Charles M. Clancey, in sec-

Assistant Alderman Charles M. Clancey, in Seconding the adoption of the resolution, delivered a touching eulogy on the character of the late Henry Smith, who commenced his career in this Board, and at the moment of his death he had attained a great eminence in political circles.

Assistant Alderman Healy moved that a committee of five, to co-operate with a similar one from the Board of Aldermen, be appointed.

The Chairman appointed Messrs, Poley, Healy, Sommers, Wade and Kreps. After which the Board adjourned.

Meeting of the Joint Committee On the adjournment of the Council the Joint Committee met in the office of General Pinckney. On motion, Alderman John J. Morris was appointed Chairman. General Pinckney stated that

funeral draperies for the Governor's Room, the black part of which material was alpaca. The room would be fully draped during the night, Mr. Morris reported that the Fire Commissioners had informed him that a battalion of firement would be detailed to take part in the funeral ceremonies; also that Major General Shaler had offered to jurnish a proper military escort.

On motion of Alderman Fianagan the proffer of the Fire Commissioners and Major General commanding the First division was accepted and the Clerk was instructed to notify these gentlemen. The motion was adopted.

The committee resolved to meet at Police Headquarters at half-past ten o'clock this morning to consult and work in narmony with the Police Commissioners. The funeral services will take placefrom the church corner seventh avenue and Fourteenth street at one o'clock P. M. on Thursday. The heads of the different departments will be invited.

On motion the committee adjourned.

On motion the committee adjourned.

Meeting of Police Captains. At a meeting of all the police captains in the department, held in the court room at Police

Headquarters yesterday, the following preamble and resolutions were passed:-

and resolutions were passed:

Whereas it has pleased Divine Providence to remove from the seems of this world, on the 23d of February, 1874, Henry Smith, who held at the time of his death the office of President of the Board of Police of the Police Department of the city of New York, we desire to make the following brief record, as an expression of our admiration of his virtues as a man, a citizen and a public officer, as well as our grief for his loss.

Resolved, That the death of Henry Smith, in the full maturity of his nowers, and in the very "midst of lile's unfinished plan," is tokeach and all of us who have been brought into daily and intimate relations with him a personal bereavement. As men, we have lost a warin-perienced and generous friend; as public officers, an experienced and capable official head.

Resolved, That this expression of esteem and regard in which, as a citizen and an official he was held by us, be communicated to his widow, with the assurance that she has our deep and heartfelt sympathy in her irreparable bereavement.

Before adjourning, the captains determined to

The Remains at the City Hall.

A few minutes past six o'clock Captain Byrnes, commanding the Fifteenth precinct, arrived at the City Hall, accompanied by Sergeants Murray and Young, of the Fifteenth; Sergeant Christie, of the Eleventh; Sergeant Pickett, of the Twenty-second; Sergeant Ryan, of the Sixth, and Sergeant Westerman, of the Eighteenth precinct, and fity

Westerman, of the Eighteenth precinct, and fity patrolmen. This force was at once distributed throughout the building and Governor's Room, Captain Byrnes and Sergeants Young, Pickett and Westerman held the first watch until twelve o'clock, and were relieved by the others after that. The Captain, however, expressed his intention of remaining on duty all night.

Besides the police force there was a Masonic watch present, consisting of six brethren of Benevolent Lodge, No. 28, F. and A. M., of which deceased was a member, in charge of P. M. George A. Barney and P. M. William H. Davis, the committee appointed for this duty. Each watch consists of three brethren, who are on duty six hours, in charge of a Past Master of the lodge. Past Masters Kenworthy, Styles and Barney accompanied the remains from the Metropolitan Hotel to the Governor's Room.

A large force of workmen and girls from A. The Stewart's establishment were bitsy until long after midnight decorating the Governor's Room, where the remains of the deceased Commissioner are lying on ice, prior to being enshrouded in the coffin.

Meeting of Police Detectives. Captain Irving called a meeting of the detectives yesterday, and they assembled in the Detective Office at seven o'clock last evening. Captain James Irving was called to the chair, and the following preamble and resolutions were

whereas the officers and members of the detective force of the Police Department of the city of New York have received with deep sorrow the sad intelligence of the Bath of Commissioner terry Smith. President of the case of Commissioner terry Smith. President of the Bath of Commissioner terry Smith. President of the Bath of Commissioner terry Smith. President of the Smith of Commissioner terry Smith. President of the Smith of Commissioner Smith have held the name of the deceased system of the widow of charity.

Resolved, That we respectfully tender the widow of Mr. Heary Smith our sincere symmathies at her loss, although fully sensible that no words can console her in her bereavement.

Resolved, That as a slight testimonial of respect the officers and members of the detective torce, the Folice Roard approving, attend the funeral of Mr. Henry Smith in a body, with suitable badges of mourning.

The Board of Police Justices. Pursuant to the call of the President, Judge Court of Special Sessions, at half-past one o'clock. As soon as the meeting was called to order Judge Kasmre offered the following resolutions, which were at once adopted by the Board:—

Whereas the Board of Police Justices have heard with regret of the sudden death of the Hon. Henry smith, late President of the Board of Police Commissioners of this city, therefore, be it Resolved, That Ugs Board, as a mark of proper respect, direct that the several police courts adjourn on the day of the funeral after their morning session, and meet at twelve o'clock on that day at the Court of Special Sessions to attenu in a body the funeral of the late President.

Resolutions were also passed appointing a committee of three, whose duty it shall be to make such recommendations as the committee may deem expedient and calculated to secure the attainment of the proper remedies for alleged existing defects in the laws relating to intoxication.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC NOTES.

"Alda" will be repeated this evening at the

Academy of Music. "The Man, with the Red Beard" is the present attraction at Wood's Museum. Signor Tamberiik has commenced an engage-

ment at the Madrid Opera House. The latest attractions at the Italiens, Paris, are

Astuzie Femminiii" and "Semiramide." Mile. Torriani will sing the role of Valentine in 'Gli Ugonotti." in Brooklyn to-morrow night. "Charity," which was to have been produced

next Saturday night, has been postponed for a few evenings in order to admit of further repetitions "Love's Labor's Lost." There seems to have been a series of dramatic failures at the Ambigu, Paris, and a new play by a M. Touroude, named "Le Secret de Rocbrune," has

just been added to the number.
Offenbach's "Orphée aux Enfers," transforme into a grand spectacular fairy opera, in four acts and tweive tableaux, has been brought out at the

Gafté, Paris, with immense success. The scientific public, interested in an anthropomorphous aucestry, are supposed first to read Darwin's "Descent of Man" and then to visit the performances of Little Jack Darwin at the Theatre

It is stated that perhaps the most unquestion able triumph of the present theatrical season in Paris has been the production of a drama in five acts and eight tableaux, the joint work of MM. Dennery and Cormon, entitled "Les Deux Or-

"Philip," by M. Hamilton Aide, has now been running at the London Lyceum for more than two weeks. Miss Isabel Bateman and Mr. Henry Irving have parts in it. It is said to be very effective and to have for its basis the story of the enmbment of a living being and the wailing up of

the place of concealment.

There was a large audience convened last evening at the Church of the Disciples, corner of Forty-fifth street and Madison avenue, to listen to concert which was supposed to revive the songs of our ancestors. Few of the features of the eighteenth century were observable. The singing would never rival the vocal successes of our operatic triumphs: indeed, having little to say in its favor we will say nothing at all. The features

Mme. Janauschek's Hortense, the French waiting maid, is a direct verification from the pages of Bleak House." The shrugs, the cajolery, the spite, the cynicism, the mincing impudence of nanner, are wonderful instances of the vivid reproduction of details, and are rendered all the with the severe and tortured repose of Lady Dedlock. As the only great artistic creations now visible on the New York stage these two roles. ought to be witnessed by every theatre-goer now in the city.

ANNEXATION EXCITEMENT IN HOBOKEN.

At the meeting of the Council last evening the excitement attending the momentous question of restoring Weehawken to Hoboken was expressed by Mr. Heyne, who vigorously urged that a petition be sent to the Legislature to that end, and averred that in his own ward 500 signatures could be counted on. Weehawken once formed a part of Hooken, but was desached therefrom in the interest of its owners. The taxes thereby taken from the taxpayers of Hoboken amount to \$30,000 a year. he had already made some arrangements for the